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### STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

### DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

### **DIVISION OF ECONOMIC & HOUSING STABILITY**

### BUREAU OF CHILD DEVELOPMENT & HEAD START COLLABORATION

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October 30, 2019

# IMPORTANT CHANGES TO NEW HAMPSHIRE CHILD CARE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

## Dear Parent or Guardian:

You are receiving this letter because your child is eligible for the NH Child Care Scholarship Program. We are pleased to announce important changes to the NH Child Care Scholarship program, effective November 4, 2019. Your child care provider will receive a letter informing him or her of these changes. Please talk with your child care provider about how these changes will affect your family.

### **DHHS WEEKLY STANDARD RATE INCREASE**

DHHS weekly rates will change on November 4, 2019. These changes may affect how much you pay for child care services.

To view the new rates go to DHHS Forms page: https://www.dhhs.nh.gov/dcyf/cdb/forms.htm

- Maximum Weekly Standard Rates Employment Related (Form 2533) https://www.dhhs.nh.gov/dcyf/cdb/documents/bcdhscform2533.pdf
- Maximum Weekly Standard Rates Preventive & Protective (Form 2534) https://www.dhhs.nh.gov/dcyf/cdb/documents/bcdhscform2534.pdf

# SIGNIFICANT SPECIAL NEED(S) DIFFERENTIAL INCREASE

DHHS offers child care providers additional money to provide support for children with a significant special need or diagnosed disability. If you think your child may qualify, talk to your child care provider for more information. If your child care provider is already receiving a significant special need payment, the rates will increase on November 4, 2019.

The rate increases are:

- From \$50.00 to \$100.00 for Full Time service level
- From \$30.00 to \$75.00 for Half Time service level
- From \$15.00 to \$50.00 for Part Time service level

To view the Special Needs Verification form go to: <a href="https://www.dhhs.nh.gov/dcyf/cdb/documents/form2690-special-needs-verification.pdf">https://www.dhhs.nh.gov/dcyf/cdb/documents/form2690-special-needs-verification.pdf</a>.

### **CHILD CARE PROVIDER CLOSURES**

Beginning in November 2019, child care providers can bill the NH Child Care Scholarship Program for certain times when they are closed. This change will allow child care providers to be paid during these times and may help your family with out-of-pocket expenses.

The designated closures are:

- Thanksgiving Day
- Christmas Day
- New Year's Day
- 12 hours of staff professional development per calendar year
- 12 hours of program closures per calendar year
- Federal, state, or DHHS administrator declared disaster closure day(s)

We believe these changes will benefit the children, families, and child care providers of New Hampshire.

If you have questions, please contact Client Services at 1-800-852-3345 extension 9700 or 271-9700.

Sincerely,

Debra Nelson, M.S., Bureau Chief

Child Development and Head Start Collaboration

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